

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for controlling play of a progressively operated lottery type card based game, the apparatus comprising:

- a plurality of playing cards which can be purchased by game players each of which having one or more game symbols displayed thereon;
- a master game card for use in conjunction with the plurality of playing cards;
- at least one of the master game card and the plurality of playing cards having displayed thereon means for establishing the eligibility of one or more selected game players having playing cards displaying predetermined selected ones of the game symbols,
- at least one of the master game card and the plurality of playing cards including means for identifying at least one of the selected game players, and selectively removable elements ~~means~~ for concealing the identifying means prior to establishing the selected game players;
- the master game card further including first award identifying means comprising a plurality of award values displayed on the master game card, and selectively removable elements ~~means~~ for concealing the award values, so that the at least one of the selected game players identified by the first award identifying means can determine the award to be received by removing the concealing elements ~~means~~ associated with the award values;
- an accumulated a jackpot established from jackpot contributions from one or more games prior to the play of the master game card;
- indicia on the master game card for identifying a maximum allowed jackpot value;

- the master game card further including a second award identifying means for establishing the identity of at least one game player, and selectively removable element means for concealing the second award identifying means which concealing element means is removed to reveal the identity of the at least one game player who is awarded an award from the an accumulated jackpot when the accumulated jackpot amount equals or exceeds the a predetermined maximum allowed jackpot value amount and has is not been awarded to at least one of the selected game players identified by the first award identifying means.

2. (Original) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the second award identifying means identifies one selected game player.

3. (Original) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the second award identifying means identifies one player among all players who purchased a game card.

4. (Currently amended) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the selectively removable element means for concealing the second award identifying means comprises a die-cut flap which obscures the identity of a game player until revealed.

5. (Currently amended) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the selectively removable element means for concealing the second award identifying means comprises a scratch-off coating which obscures the identity of a game player until revealed.

6. (Currently amended) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the master game card has displayed thereon indicia which informs both the game operator and game players that the selectively removable means is to be removed only when the accumulated jackpot award amount reaches or exceeds the maximum allowed jackpot value ~~a predetermined maximum amount~~ and is not awarded to a game player.

7. (Currently amended) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the selectively removable element means for concealing the second award identifying means includes indicia comprising a stop sign symbol toward reminding the game operator and game players that the accumulated jackpot bonus award is to be awarded when the amount reaches or exceeds the maximum allowed jackpot value ~~a predetermined maximum amount~~ and is not awarded to a game player.

8. (Currently amended) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the selectively removable element means for concealing the second award identifying means includes indicia which expressly indicates the maximum dollar amount of the accumulated jackpot award bonus which triggers removal of the concealing element means of the second award identifying means.

9. (Currently amended) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the selectively removable element means for concealing the second award identifying means includes indicia which informs both the game operator and game players that the element means is to be removed only when the accumulated jackpot amount reaches or exceeds the

maximum allowed jackpot value ~~a predetermined maximum amount~~ and is not awarded to a game player.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the jackpot comprises a dollar value.

12. (Original) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the master game card has displayed thereon means for listing the identity of eligible game players.

13. (Original) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the identity of eligible game players is represented by game symbols.

14. (Currently amended) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein at least one game player is awarded the entire accumulated jackpot value when the accumulated jackpot amount equals or exceeds maximum allowed jackpot value ~~a predetermined maximum amount~~ and is not awarded to at least one of the selected game players identified by the identifying means.

15. (Original) The invention according to Claim 1 wherein at least one game player is awarded the amount from the accumulated jackpot which exceeds the ~~predetermined maximum~~ allowed jackpot value ~~amount~~ when the jackpot is not awarded to at least one of the selected game players identified by the identifying means.

16. (New) A method of playing a lottery-type game having a progressive jackpot, comprising:

- a) providing a plurality of playing cards to game players, each of the playing cards having at least one game symbol displayed thereon, and a master game card for use in association with the playing cards, the master game card having at least one first game symbol displayed thereon; at least one first concealment element initially concealing the at least one first game symbol of the master game card; a plurality of award identifying symbols, each award identifying symbol having an associated award concealing element initially concealing the award identifying symbol; at least one second game symbol displayed thereon; and at least one second concealment element initially concealing the identity of at least one game player;
- b) setting a maximum jackpot value to be awarded to a winning game player;
- c) distributing the playing cards to a plurality of game players;
- d) operating the at least one first concealment element to reveal at least one first game symbol of the master game card;
- e) permitting each game player holding a playing card having a game symbol matching at least one of the at least one first game symbols to select at least one of the at least one award concealment elements to be opened to reveal the award identifying symbol associated therewith, and awarding each said game player any prize identified by the associated award identifying symbol;
- f) accumulating additional value into a jackpot when the entire jackpot is not awarded as a prize in step e);

- g) repeating steps a), b), c), d), e) and f) until the entire jackpot is awarded as a prize in step e) or the accumulated jackpot reaches the maximum allowed jackpot value;
- h) operating the at least one second concealment element to reveal the identity of at least one game player when the accumulated jackpot reaches at least the maximum allowed jackpot value and
- i) awarding the entire accumulated jackpot value to the at least one player whose identity is revealed upon operating the at least one second concealment element.

17. (New) The invention according to Claim 16, wherein the master game card further includes a plurality of eligibility game symbols displayed thereon, at least one of the eligibility game symbols matching at least one of the first game symbols of the master game card.

18. (New) The invention according to Claim 16, wherein at least one of the at least one first concealment element, the award concealment elements, and the at least one second concealment element comprises a die-cut flap.

19. (New) The invention according to Claim 16, further comprising the step of displaying the accumulated jackpot value on the master game card.

20. (New) The invention according to Claim 16, wherein the master game card has the maximum jackpot value displayed thereon.